As a result of these measures, flaring of gas has been reduced over the last four years. Flaring of gas as a percentage of production has come down from 42 per cent in 1984-85 to 30 per cent in 1987-88.

Declining trend of oil production

1455. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil production at the Bombay High oil-field has shown a declining trend;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been a sharp rise in the gas-oil ratio as well as sick wells; and

(c) what has been the rated capacity and actual achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) There is a marginal reduction in crude production in Bombay High Offshore fields which is normal in any reservoir with passage of time. A number of measures have been taken to maintain/increase the production by,

— Use of enhanced recovery techniques.

— Intensification of work-over operations.

— Use of artificial lift mechanism.

— Closer spacing of wells.

(b) There has been some rise in the gas-oil ratio.

(c) The target of crude production from Bombay High offshore fields during 1987-88 was 19.92 million tonnes and the actual achievement was 20.16 million tonnes. The target for current year is 20.88 million tonnes.

Setting up of petrochemical project in Andhra Pradesh

1456. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the setting up of a large petro-chemical project in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any foreign technical collaboration is envisaged;

(c) whether any foreign equity participation is expected; and

(d) what would be the capacity proposed and the project outlay?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) Some applications for the setting up of a Petro-chemical Complex at Visha-Khapatnam in Andhra Pradesh have been received. Final decision on these applicantions will be taken in due-course based on techno-economic considerations. The details of such applications are not disclosed till the final decision is taken on them.

Plans for industrialisation of backward and rural areas of the country

1457. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans for industrialisation of both the backward and the rural areas in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Industrialisation is a continuous process. The entrepreneurs setting up industries in the industrially backward districts (including rural areas falling in these districts) are eligible for grant of Central Subsidy as per details given below:—

Category 'A'	25 per cent Subjcet to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs (Rs. 50 lakhs for setting up electronic industries in hilly districts of Category 'A').
Category 'B'	15 per cent (Subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 lakhs.

Category 'C' 10 per cent (Subject to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs) MRTP/FERA Companies are not eligible).

In addition, they are also granted loans on Concessional terms, Concessions under the Income Tax Act, priority in the grant of industrial licences etc.

Government have also decided to give excise duty exemption to the following items provided that such goods are manufactured in rural areas by registered co-operative societies, including women's societies or by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission or by the State Khadi and Village Industries Board:—

1. Preparation of vegetables and fruits; pickels
2. Sauces and Ketchup
3. Laundry and carbolic soaps
4. Footwears of value not exceeding Rs. 75 per pair
5. Radios
6. Cassette players or recorders whether or not fitted with radios
7. Voltage stabilisers
8. Electronic clocks and electronic alarm time pieces.

Revival of sick units of coir-based industries in Andhra Pradesh

1458. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to give incentives for the development of coir-based industries in Andhra Pradesh which is rich in coconut cultivation;

(b) if so, what are the incentives that were offered for the purpose;

(c) whether Government are aware that out of 69 coir-based industries in the State about 30 are sick; and

(d) if so, whether the Central Government would come forward to revive the sick units?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Incentives for development of coir industry in various States, including Andhra Pradesh, are already being given. Under Central Scheme of Co-operativisation, introduced in 1982, financial support is given towards (i) Share Capital, (ii) Managerial Assistance, (iii) Assistance for purchasing equipments and (iv) Marketing Assistance. Expenditure under this Scheme is shared between the State Government concerned and the Central Government on 50 : 50 basis. Till 1987-88, a sum of Rs. 13.11 lakhs has been released as Central Govt.'s share to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh under this scheme. Another Scheme introduced in March, 1987 for promotion of new coir based units and also for rennovation/modernisation of exsiting units in the brown coir sector, has been recently liberalised to provide for grant upto 25 per cent on graded basis. To accelerate the pace of development of brown coir fibre, a new regional office of Coir Board has been set up in Vishakhapatnam from July 1, 1988.

(c) and (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that no coir based unit has, at present, been identified as sick unit.

'Maruti with more than 1000 ccs engine

1459. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maruti Udyog Ltd. propose to bring out a larger version of more than 1000 ccs engine soon; and

(b) if so, the likely date of manufacture of such a version and its likely price?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.